

2012Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Instructions for Form 3468

Investment Credit

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future Developments

For the latest information about developments related to Form 3468 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/form3468.

What's New

The qualifying therapeutic discovery project credit has been removed since the credit has expired.

General Instructions

Purpose of Form

Use Form 3468 to claim the investment credit. The investment credit consists of the rehabilitation, energy, qualifying advanced coal project, qualifying gasification project, and qualifying advanced energy project credits. If you file electronically, you must send in a paper Form 8453, U.S. Individual Income Tax Transmittal for an IRS e-file Return, if attachments are required to Form 3468.

Investment Credit Property

Investment credit property is any depreciable or amortizable property that qualifies for the rehabilitation credit, energy credit, qualifying advanced coal project credit, qualifying gasification project credit, or qualifying advanced energy project credit.

You cannot claim a credit for property that is:

- Used mainly outside the United States (except for property described in section 168(g)(4));
- Used by a governmental unit or foreign person or entity (except for a qualified rehabilitated building leased to that unit, person, or entity; and property used under a lease with a term of less than 6 months);
- Used by a tax-exempt organization (other than a section 521 farmers' cooperative) unless the property is used mainly in an unrelated trade or business or is a qualified rehabilitated building leased by the organization;
- Used for lodging or in the furnishing of lodging (see section 50(b)(2) for exceptions); or
- Certain MACRS business property to the extent it has been expensed under section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Qualified Progress Expenditures

Qualified progress expenditures are those expenditures made before the property is placed in service and for which the taxpayer has made an election to treat the expenditures as progress expenditures. Qualified progress expenditure property is any property that is being constructed by or for the taxpayer and which (a) has a normal construction period of two years or more, and (b) it is reasonable to believe that the property will be new investment credit property in the hands of the taxpayer when it is placed in service. The placed in service requirement does not apply to qualified progress expenditures.

Qualified progress expenditures for:

- Self-constructed property means the amount that is properly chargeable (during the tax year) to capital account with respect to that property; or
- Non-self-constructed property means the lesser of: (a) the amount paid (during the tax year) to another person for the construction of the property, or (b) the amount that represents the proportion of the overall cost to the taxpayer of the construction by the other person which is properly attributable to that portion of the construction which is completed during the tax year.

For more information on qualified progress expenditures, see section 46(d) (as in effect on November 4, 1990). For details on qualified progress expenditures for the rehabilitation credit, see section 47(d).

At-Risk Limit for Individuals and Closely Held Corporations

The cost or basis of property for investment credit purposes may be limited if you borrowed against the property and are protected against loss, or if you borrowed money from a person who is related or who has an interest (other than as a creditor) in the business activity. The cost or basis must be reduced by the amount of the nonqualified nonrecourse financing related to the property as of the close of the tax year in which the property is placed in service. If, at the close of a tax year following the year property was placed in service, the nonqualified nonrecourse financing for any property has increased or decreased, then the credit base for the property changes accordingly. The changes may result in an increased credit or a recapture of the credit in the year of the change. See sections 49 and 465 for details.

Recapture of Credit

You may have to refigure the investment credit and recapture all or a portion of it if:

- You dispose of investment credit property before the end of 5 full years after the property was placed in service (recapture period);
- You change the use of the property before the end of the recapture period so that it no longer qualifies as investment credit property;
- The business use of the property decreases before the end of the recapture period so that it no longer qualifies (in whole or in part) as investment credit property;
- Any building to which section 47(d) applies will no longer be a qualified rehabilitated building when placed in service;
- Any property to which section 48(b) applies will no longer qualify as investment credit property when placed in service;
- Before the end of the recapture period, your proportionate interest is reduced by more than one-third in an S corporation, partnership (other than an electing large partnership), estate, or trust that allocated the cost or basis of property to you for which you claimed a credit;
- You return leased property (on which you claimed a credit) to the lessor before the end of the recapture period;
- A net increase in the amount of nonqualified nonrecourse financing occurs for any property to which section 49(a)(1) applied; or
- A grant under section 1603 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009 was made for section 48 property

17 CFR § 205.7 - No private right of action.

CFR

§ 205.7 No private right of action.

(a) Nothing in this part is intended to, or does, create a private right of action against any attorney, law firm, or issuer based upon compliance or noncompliance with its provisions.

(b) Authority to enforce compliance with this part is vested exclusively in the Commission.

CFR Toolbox

[Law about... Articles from Wex](#)

[Table of Popular Names](#)

[Parallel Table of Authorities](#)

[How current is this?](#)

purchase of an interest in the tax shelter, (2) solicitation of investors, or (3) instructing or advising a salesperson regarding the tax shelter or sales presentations with respect thereto. See Reg. §301.6111-1T, Q&A-31.

Conduct to Which the Penalty Applies

The penalty applies to two distinct types of conduct: (1) making a false statement; and (2) making a "gross valuation overstatement."

1. False Statements

The penalty applies to a promoter who, in connection with the organization or sale of an interest in the tax shelter, makes or furnishes (or causes another person to make or furnish) a statement with respect to: (1) the allowability of any deduction or credit; (2) the excludability of any income; or (3) the securing of any other tax benefit, by reason of holding an interest in the entity or participating in the plan or arrangement that the promoter knows or has reason to know is false or fraudulent as to any material matter. See IRC §6700(a)(2)(A). See also *Kersting v. United States*, 206 F.3d 817 (9th Cir. 2000) (with respect to disallowed interest deductions in excess of investment). A constitutional argument that the penalty violated the promoter's First Amendment rights was rejected. *United States v. Estate Pres. Servs.*, 202 F.3d 1093 (9th Cir. 2000). See also *Nagy v. United States*, 519 Fed. Appx. 137 (4th Cir. 2013) (information regarding CPA's personal tax filing failures is inadmissible character evidence in §6700 penalty matter where CPA provided advice on tax shelter where government failed to make connection between failures in CPA's personal filings and advice provided regarding tax shelter).

The "knows or has reason to know" standard means that the IRS can rely on subjective or objective evidence of the person's knowledge. Whether a person who makes or furnishes a statement knows or has reason to know that it is false or fraudulent depends upon that person's role in the organization or sale. See *United States v. Estate Pres. Servs.*, 202 F.3d 1093 (9th Cir. 2000); *United States v. Campbell*, 897 F.2d 1317 (5th Cir. 1990); and *Sanders v. United States*, 509 F.2d 162 (5th Cir. 1975) (the standard is "what a reasonable person in the [defendant's] subjective position would have discovered"). Each person is imputed with the knowledge required to carry out his role in the transaction, but has no duty to inquire further. For example, a salesman is ordinarily deemed to have knowledge of the facts revealed in sales materials that are furnished to him by the promoter. In addition, a promoter can rely on an expert in his area of expertise, unless the promoter knows or has reason to know why he should not. For example, counsel is entitled to rely on a feasibility study conducted by an engineering firm reputed to be an expert in the area, unless counsel independently knows or has reason to know information that brings the results of that study into question. Absent that, counsel is not required to question the assumptions underlying the study or its results. On the other hand, counsel must draw its own legal conclusions from that information.

The false or fraudulent statement must relate to a "material matter." For this purpose, a matter is considered to be "material" if it would have a substantial impact on the decision-making process of a reasonably prudent investor. See the 1982 Act Senate Report at 267.

2. Gross Valuation Overstatement

The penalty provided by §6700 also applies to a promoter who makes or furnishes (or causes another person to make or furnish) a "gross valuation overstatement" as to any material matter in connection with the organization or sale of any interest in the shelter. 1375 A "gross valuation overstatement" is any statement as to the value of any property or services if:

- The stated value exceeds twice the amount determined to be the correct valuation; and
- The value of such property or service is directly related to the amount of income tax deduction or credit allowable to any participant. See IRC §6700(b)(1).

Because the correct value is fair market value, the penalty does not apply to a bona fide arm's-length commercial or investment transaction. See 1982 Act Senate Report at 267.

So I hope this email is helpful. The elements are fairly simple, but the nuances make the statute quite broad. Let me know if you have any questions about this.

-Paul

Paul W. Jones, Attorney | CPA
Hale & Wood, PLLC
4766 S. Holladay Blvd | Salt Lake City, Utah 84117
Phone: 801-930-5101 | Cell: 801-859-1478 | Fax: 801-606-7714

435-550-7222
4807

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This transmission is intended for the sole use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is confidential, attorney-client privileged, or otherwise exempt, by law, from disclosure. Any

An official website of the United States government.

We've made some changes to EPA.gov. If the information you are looking for is not here, you may be able to find it on the EPA Web Archive or the January 19, 2017 Web Snapshot. [Close](#)



Renewable Industrial Process Heat

- [About industrial process heat](#)
- [How renewable industrial process heat works](#)
- [Compatible renewable technologies](#)

About Industrial Process Heat

The United States' industrial sector uses heat for a wide variety of applications, including washing, cooking, sterilizing, drying, preheating of boiler feed water, process heating, and much more. Altogether, the industrial sector uses an estimated 24 quadrillion Btu, or roughly one-third of the nation's delivered energy supply.¹ Process heating applications alone account for approximately 36 percent of total delivered energy consumption within the manufacturing sector (a subset of the industrial sector).² The vast size and scale of industrial heating energy use represents a unique opportunity for renewable resources.

According to a study of industrial heating in European countries, 30 percent of industrial heating applications require heat below 212⁰F, another 27 percent can be met with heat between 212 and 750 ⁰F, and the remaining 43 percent require heat above 750 ⁰F.³ Most existing renewable heating technologies can easily and cost-effectively supply heat within the lowest indicated temperature range. Often, the most valuable role that renewable heating technologies can play in industrial applications is to provide "preheating" before an existing conventional energy source is used. Major considerations for industrial renewable heating applications include cost, resource intermittency, and process integration and storage options.

How Renewable Industrial Process Heat Works

Solar, geothermal, or biomass sources can provide heat to support industrial processes that serve water or air-heating end uses. As described above, more than half of industrial heating is met through temperatures below 750⁰F, and some industries (agriculture, cooking) have much lower temperature needs. Many renewable heating resources can easily meet the lower temperature requirements. Even if renewable sources cannot support the entire heating load, they can still provide pre-heating to supplement a conventional heating process. Because it takes a relatively large amount of energy to raise the temperature of water (compared with heating air, for example), even a modest amount of pre-heating can reduce a facility's dependence on fossil fuels—and save money in the process.

Compatible Renewable Technologies

Flat-plate solar collectors and ground source heat pumps can support industrial processes requiring warm

to hot water, such as pressurization or pre-heating water. Many agricultural processes also require gentle warming. For example, flat-plate solar collectors and ground source heat pumps can help to warm soil or warm water for fish farming to about 100 °F.

Chemical processing, kilning, drying, curing, sterilization, and distillation activities requiring higher temperatures can use evacuated tube solar collectors, direct use geothermal water, or biomass furnaces. Concentrating solar thermal technologies and deep geothermal wells can support the highest-temperature applications, such as fuel production, that require pressurized, superheated water or steam above 480 °F.

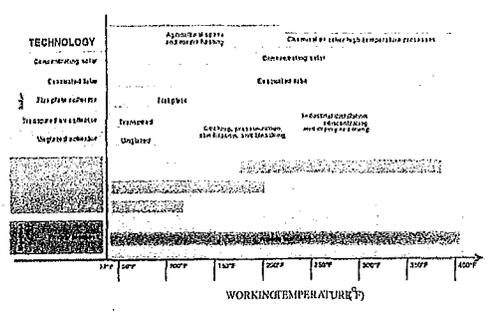
Agricultural and industrial facilities often take advantage of co-location and cogeneration. Waste agricultural products such as rice and corn husks can potentially serve as effective biomass fuels. Similarly, waste heat from a high-temperature industrial process can possibly support another process requiring a lower temperature.

The interactive diagram below shows how industrial processes align with selected renewable technologies. You can click any of the technologies to go to a new page with more detailed information.

Renewable Industrial Process Heat Technologies and Applications

Technologies and Applications

Applications



° View a text version of this diagram o View an expanded version of this diagram to compare industrial process heat with other renewable heating and cooling applications

Understanding the Diagram

The diagram above shows technologies and industrial process applications in terms of the approximate "working temperature" range, which is the required temperature of the heat transfer fluid within the renewable heating system. The working temperature is not necessarily the same as the final temperature of the end product (in this case, the final temperature of the air or water that is being heated).

The diagram above shows approximate working temperature ranges. The exact working temperature requirements for a particular system will depend on factors such as system type, size, and location. The working temperature that a particular renewable technology can supply will also depend on site-

specific factors. For example, the amount of heat that a solar collector system can supply will depend on how much sunlight it receives, and at what angle.

of3

Learn More About Renewable Industrial Process Heat

Key Renewable Technologies

Key End Use Sectors

Technical Resources

[Flat-plate solar](#) • [Breweries](#) • [Project development collector](#) • [Industrial Processes tools](#)
[Evacuated tube solar collector](#)
[Concentrating solar system](#)
[Ground source heat](#)
[Direct use geothermal](#) [Deep and enhanced geothermal](#)
[Woody biomass](#)

¹ U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration. 2014. [Annual Ener Outlook 2014: Industrial Sector Key Indicators and Consumption](#).

² U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration. 2006. [Best Practices: Process Heating \(PDF\)](#). (2 pp, 428 K, [About PDF](#)).

³ International Energy Agency, Solar Heating and Cooling Program. 2008. [Potential for Solar Heat in Industrial Processes](#).

EXIT

LAST UPDATED ON OCTOBER 26, 2017

An official website of the United States government.

We've made some changes to EPA.gov. If the information you are looking for is not here, you may be able to find it on the EPA Web Archive or the January 19, 2017 Web Snapshot. Close



Renewable Industrial Process Heat

- [About industrial process heat](#)
- [How renewable industrial process heat works](#)
- [Compatible renewable technologies](#)

About Industrial Process Heat

The United States' industrial sector uses heat for a wide variety of applications, including washing, cooking, sterilizing, drying, preheating of boiler feed water, process heating, and much more. Altogether, the industrial sector uses and estimated 24 quadrillion Btu, or roughly one-third of the nation's delivered energy supply. Process heating applications alone account for approximately 36 percent of total delivered energy consumption within the manufacturing sector (a subset of the industrial sector). The vast size and scale of industrial heating energy use represents a unique opportunity for renewable resources.

According to a study of industrial heating in European countries, 30 percent of industrial heating applications require heat below 212°F, another 27 percent can be met with heat between 212 and 750 °F, and the remaining 43 percent require heat above 750 °F.³ Most existing renewable heating technologies can easily and cost-effectively supply heat within the lowest indicated temperature range. Often, the most valuable role that renewable heating technologies can play in industrial applications is to provide "preheating" before an existing conventional energy source is used. Major considerations for industrial renewable heating applications include cost, resource intermittency, and process integration and storage options.

How Renewable Industrial Process Heat Works

Solar, geothermal, or biomass sources can provide heat to support industrial processes that serve water or air-heating end uses. As described above, more than half of industrial heating is met through temperatures below 750°F, and some industries (agriculture, cooking) have much lower temperature needs. Many renewable heating resources can easily meet the lower temperature requirements. Even if renewable sources cannot support the entire heating load, they can still provide pre-heating to supplement a conventional heating process. Because it takes a relatively large amount of energy to raise the temperature of water (compared with heating air, for example), even a modest amount of pre-heating can reduce a facility's dependence on fossil fuels—and save money in the process.

Compatible Renewable Technologies

Flat-plate solar collectors and ground source heat pumps can support industrial processes requiring warm

of 3

to hot water, such as pressurization or pre-heating water. Many agricultural processes also require gentle warming. For example, flat-plate solar collectors and ground source heat pumps can help to warm soil or warm water for fish farming to about 100 °F.

Chemical processing, kilning, drying, curing, sterilization, and distillation activities requiring higher temperatures can use evacuated tube solar collectors, direct use geothermal water, or biomass furnaces. Concentrating solar thermal technologies and deep geothermal wells can support the highest-temperature applications, such as fuel production, that require pressurized, superheated water or steam above 480 °F.

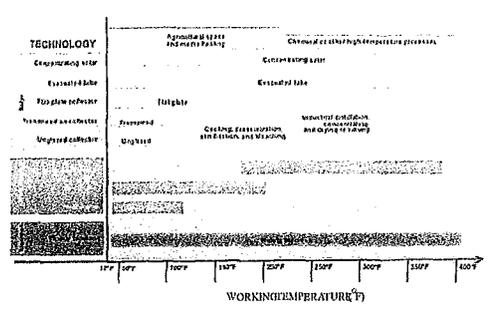
Agricultural and industrial facilities often take advantage of co-location and cogeneration. Waste agricultural products such as rice and corn husks can potentially serve as effective biomass fuels. Similarly, waste heat from a high-temperature industrial process can possibly support another process requiring a lower temperature.

The interactive diagram below shows how industrial processes align with selected renewable technologies. You can click any of the technologies to go to a new page with more detailed information.

Renewable Industrial Process Heat Technologies and Applications

Technologies and Applications

Applications



° View a text version of this diagram o View an expanded version of this diagram to compare industrial process heat with other renewable heating and cooling applications

Understanding the Diagram

The diagram above shows technologies and industrial process applications in terms of the approximate "working temperature" range, which is the required temperature of the heat transfer fluid within the renewable heating system. The working temperature is not necessarily the same as the final temperature of the end product (in this case, the final temperature of the air or water that is being heated).

The diagram above shows approximate working temperature ranges. The exact working temperature requirements for a particular system will depend on factors such as system type, size, and location. The working temperature that a particular renewable technology can supply will also depend on site-

specific factors. For example, the amount of heat that a solar collector system can supply will depend on how much sunlight it receives, and at what angle.

of3

Learn More About Renewable Industrial Process Heat

<p>Key Renewable Technologies</p> <p><u>Flat-plate solar</u> • <u>Breweries</u> • <u>Project development collector</u> • <u>Industrial Processes tools</u></p> <p><u>Evacuated tube solar collector</u></p> <p><u>Concentrating solar system</u></p> <p><u>Ground source heat</u></p> <p><u>Direct use</u></p> <p><u>geothermal Deep and enhanced geothermal</u></p> <p><u>Woody biomass</u></p>	<p>Key End Use Sectors</p>	<p>Technical Resources</p>
---	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

We've made some changes to EPA.gov. If the information you are looking for is not here, you may be able to find it on the EPA Web Archive or the January 19, 2017 Web Snapshot. CWe'

e,EPA

Solar Heating and Cooling Technologies

Can I use solar thermal technology where I live?

Solar thermal technologies can be used anywhere in the United States. However, some regions naturally receive more intense and more reliable solar energy than others, depending on latitude, typical weather patterns, and other factors. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory provides maps that show the solar energy potential where you live.

Solar thermal technologies absorb the heat of the sun and transfer it to useful applications, such as

heating buildings or water. There are several major types of solar thermal technologies in use:

- Unglazed solar collectors •
- Transpired solar air collectors o
- Flat-plate solar collectors •
- Evacuated tube solar collectors o
- Concentrating solar systems

In addition to the solar thermal technologies above, technologies such as solar photovoltaic modules can produce electricity, and buildings can be designed to capture passive solar heat.

Solar energy is considered a renewable resource because it is continuously supplied to the Earth by the sun. Visit EPA's Clean Energy website to learn more about non-thermal solar technologies and the environmental benefits and impacts of solar energy.

Unglazed Solar Collectors

1 of 8

An unglazed solar collector on the roof of a pool and fitness center.

Credit: Albert Nunez, NREL 10651

An unglazed solar collector is one of the simplest forms of solar thermal technology. A heat-conducting material, usually a dark metal or plastic, absorbs sunlight and transfers the energy to a fluid passing through or behind the heat-conducting surface. The process is similar to how a garden hose, laying out in the open, will absorb the sun's energy and heat the water inside the hose.

These collectors are described as "unglazed" because they do not have a glass covering or "glazing" on the collector box to trap heat. The lack of glazing creates a trade-off. Unglazed solar collectors are simple and inexpensive, but without a way to trap heat, they lose heat back to the environment and they operate at relatively low temperatures. Thus, unglazed collectors typically work best with small to moderate heating applications or as a complement to traditional heating systems, where they can reduce fuel burdens by pre-heating water or air.

Solar pool heating collectors are the most commonly used unglazed solar technology in the United States. These devices often use black plastic tubular panels mounted on a roof or other support structure. A water pump circulates pool water directly through the tubular panels, then returns the water to the pool at a higher temperature. Although used primarily for pool heating, these collectors can also pre-heat large volumes of water for other commercial and industrial applications.

Solar Heating and Cooling Technologies, Renewable Heating and C...
 technologies#C...
 Pool heating
 Space heating

<https://www.epa.gov/rhc/solar-heating-and-cooling->

- Single-family homes
 - Multi-unit housing
 - Lod in
 - Schools
 - Municipal governments
- Project
development tools

How It Works

Unglazed Solar Collector

Sunlight

1. Sunlight: Sunlight hits the dark material in the collector, which heats up.
2. Circulation: Cool fluid (water) or air circulates through the collector, absorbing heat.
3. Use: The warmer fluid is used for applications such as pool heating.

water
to use

Use

Circulation

Cold water
recirculate
d from use

Learn More About Unglazed Solar Collectors

Potential
Applications

Key End Use
Sectors

Technical
Resources

Transpired Solar Air Collectors

Transpired Solar Collector

Circulation

The
south-
facing

Heated air

wall of this warehouse is a transpired solar collector.

- Sunlight: Sunlight hits the dark perforated metal cladding, which heats up.
- Circulation: A circulation fan pulls air through the perforations behind the metal cladding, heating the air, which is then pulled into the building for distribution.

Solar Heating and Cooling Technologies ,Renewable Heating and C...
technologies#C.e

<https://www.epa.gov/rhc/solar-heating-and-cooling-technologies#C.e>

Credit: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and
Renewable Energy

Transpired solar air collectors typically consist of a dark-colored, perforated metal cladding material mounted on an existing wall on the south side of a building. A fan pulls outside air through the perforations and into the space behind the metal cladding, where the air heats to as much as 30 °F-100 °F above the ambient air temperature. The fan then pulls the air into the building, where it is distributed through the building's ventilation system.

The transpired solar collector is a proven but still emerging solar heating technology. This type of technology is best for heating air and ventilating indoor spaces. It can also be applied to several manufacturing and agricultural applications, such as crop drying.

How it works

Sunlight

Perforated absorber

Learn More About Transpired Solar Air Collectors

Potential Applications

Key End Use Sectors

Technical Resources

- o Space heating Multi-unit housing Project development
- o Lod in tools
- o Schools
- o Municipal governments

Flat-plate Solar Collectors

An array of flat-plate solar collectors on the roof of a school.
Credit: Joe Ryan, NREL 19690

Most flat-plate collectors consist of copper tubing and other heat-absorbing materials inside an insulated frame or housing, covered with clear glazing (glass). The-heat absorbing materials may have a special coating that absorbs heat more effectively than an uncoated surface.

How it works

Sunlight

Perforated absorber

Learn More About Transpired Solar Air Collectors

Potential Applications

Key End Use Sectors

Technical Resources

- o Space heating Multi-unit housing Project development
- o Lod in tools
- o Schools
- o Municipal governments

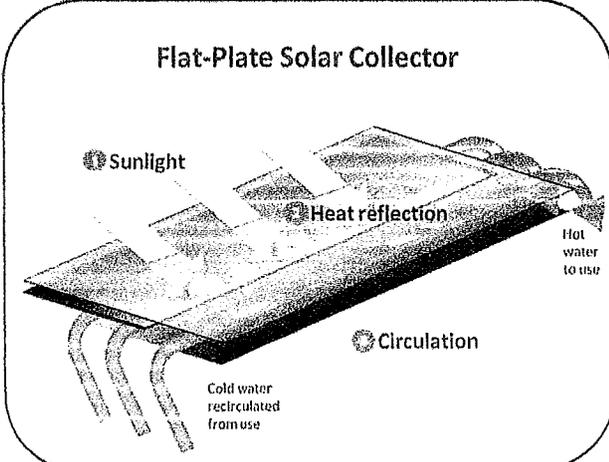
Flat-mate Solar Collectors

An array of flat-plate solar collectors on the roof of a school.
Credit: Joe Ryan, NREL 19690

Most flat-plate collectors consist of copper tubing and other heat-absorbing materials inside an insulated frame or housing, covered with clear glazing (glass). The-heat absorbing materials may have a special coating that absorbs heat more effectively than an uncoated surface.

Glazed flat-plate collectors can operate efficiently at a wider temperature range than unglazed collectors. Flat-plate collectors are often used to complement traditional water boilers, pre-heating water to reduce fuel demand. They can also be effective for space heating. Using a heat exchange system, they can reliably produce hot air for large buildings during daylight hours.

How It Works



1. Sunlight: Sunlight travels through the glass and hits the dark material inside the collector, which heats up.
2. Heat reflection: A clear glass or plastic casing traps heat that would otherwise radiate out. This is similar to the way a greenhouse traps heat inside.
3. Circulation: Cold water or another fluid circulates through the collector, absorbing heat.

Learn More About Flat-Plate Solar Collectors

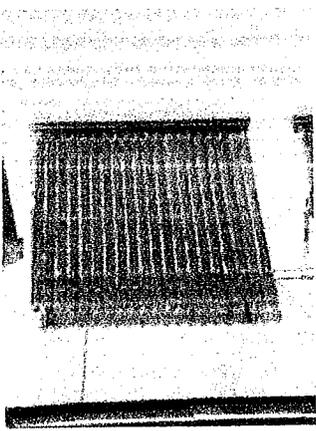
Potential Applications

Key End Use Sectors

Technical Resources

- o Space heating Single-family homes Project development
- o Hot water heating Multi-unit housing tools
- Lodging
- Restaurants
- Schools
- Municipal governments

Evacuated Tube Solar Collectors

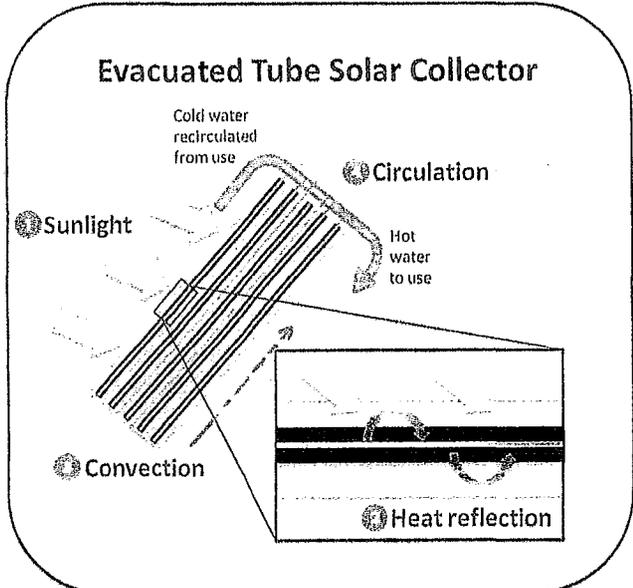


An evacuated tube solar collector on a roof.
Credit: NREL PIX
09501

Evacuated tube collectors feature thin, copper tubes filled with a fluid, such as water, housed inside larger vacuum-sealed clear glass or plastic tubes.

Evacuated tubes use the sun's energy more efficiently and can produce higher temperatures than flatplate collectors for a few reasons. First, the tube design increases the surface area available to the sun, efficiently absorbing direct sunlight from many different angles. Second, the tubes also have a partial vacuum within the clear glass enclosure, which significantly reduces heat loss to the outside environment.

How It Works



1. Sunlight: Sunlight hits a dark cylinder, efficiently heating it from any angle.
2. Heat reflection: A clear glass or plastic casing traps heat that would otherwise radiate out. This is similar to the way a greenhouse traps heat inside.
3. Convection: A copper tube running through each cylinder absorbs the cylinder's stored heat, causing fluid inside the tube to heat up and rise to the top of the cylinder.
4. Circulation: Cold water circulates through the tops of the cylinders, absorbing heat.

Evacuated tube systems are typically more expensive than flat-plate collectors, but they are more efficient and can produce higher temperatures. Evacuated tubes can reliably produce very hot water for batch or on-demand water heating and for many industrial processes, and they can produce enough heat to handle almost any space heating or space cooling application.

Learn More About Evacuated Tube Solar

Collectors

Potential Applications

Key End Use Sectors

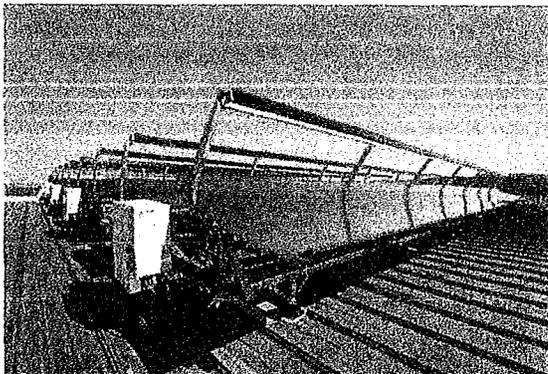
Technical Resources

- o Space heating Single-family homes ' Hot water heating • Multi-unit housing
 - o Space cooling Lodging
 - o Industrial process heatBreweries
- Restaurants
Industrial processes

Project development tools

- Schools
- Municipal governments

Concentrating Solar Systems

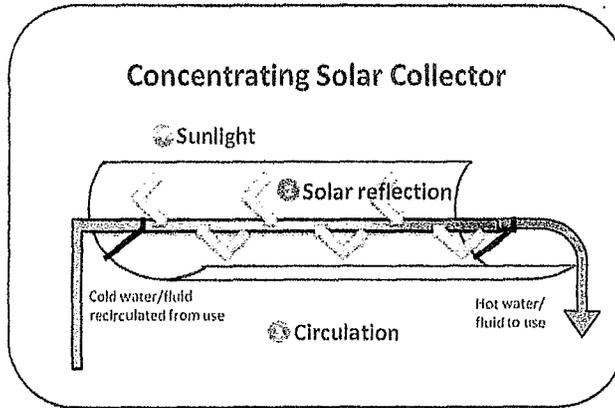


This rooftop array of parabolic trough concentrating solar collectors provides process heat for a winery. These collectors have a unique design that allows them to produce electricity in addition to heat.

Credit: Sun Water Solar

Concentrating solar systems work by reflecting and directing solar energy from a large area onto a small one. Smaller, reflective bowl-shaped arrays can produce water at a few hundred degrees for industrial or agricultural processes or for heating large volumes of water, such as resort swimming pools. Some arrays work with long parabolic troughs that concentrate sunlight onto a pipe running the length of the trough, which carries a heat transfer fluid. Even larger systems use fields of mirrors to reflect sunlight onto a central tower. These types of arrays produce high-pressure steam or other superheated fluids for a range of activities, from heat-intensive chemical processing to electric power generation.

How It Works



1. Sunlight: Sunlight hits a reflective material (i.e., a mirrored surface), usually in the shape of a trough (shown here) or a dish.
2. Solar reflection; The reflective material redirects the sunlight onto to a single point (for a dish) or a pipe (for a trough).
3. Circulation: Cold water or a special heat transfer fluid circulates through the pipe,

absorbing heat.

Concentrating systems are capable of producing enormously hot fluids for a variety of processes, and they can produce a relatively large amount of energy for each dollar invested. However, these systems tend to be much larger and more complex than the other types of solar collectors described above, with a higher total price tag. Thus, concentrating solar technology tends to be most effective for large-scale, high-temperature uses, although lower-temperature uses may still be cost-effective under certain circumstances.

Learn More About Concentrating Solar Systems

Potential Applications

Key End Use Sectors

Technical Resources

[Pool heating](#) [Lod in o](#) [Project development o](#) [Industrial process heat](#) [Industrial processes tools](#)

LAST UPDATED ON DECEMBER 19, 2016